

**PARISH OF ASCENSION**

**GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**ASCENSION PARISH COUNCIL  
ALL FUND TYPES, ACCOUNT GROUPS  
AND DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNITS**

**COMBINED BALANCE SHEET**

December 31, 2000

	Governmental Fund Types			
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,100	\$ 2,035,779	\$ 118,203	\$ 1,231,823
Investments	-	24,351,957	4,519,061	22,833,812
Accounts receivable, net	1,136,680	7,308,346	141,252	-
Due from other governments	1,015,421	682,551	-	41,830
Due from other funds	60,405	2,162,130	77,971	207,229
Inventory	-	-	-	-
Restricted assets	-	-	-	-
Other assets	54,900	42,273	-	200,000
Prepaid insurance	-	-	-	-
Fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Amount available in debt service funds	-	-	-	-
Amount to be provided for debt retirement	-	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 2,268,506</b>	<b>\$ 36,583,036</b>	<b>\$ 4,856,487</b>	<b>\$ 24,514,694</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,389,468	\$ 941,875	\$ 1,059	\$ 274,767
Contracts payable	-	69,805	-	706,977
Contribution to retirement system	33,652	171,579	-	-
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	841,942	1,143,724	-	445,673
Deferred revenue	-	-	122,867	-
Due to taxing bodies	-	-	-	-
Payable from restricted assets	-	-	-	-
Unsettled deposits	-	-	-	-
Claims reserve	-	-	-	-
Long-term payables	-	-	-	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,265,062</b>	<b>2,326,983</b>	<b>123,926</b>	<b>1,427,417</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>				
Investment in general fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Contributed capital	-	-	-	-
Customers	-	-	-	-
Federal, state and local grants	-	-	-	-
Retained earnings	-	-	-	-
Reserved - revenue bonds	-	-	-	-
Reserved - replacements	-	-	-	-
Unreserved	-	-	-	-
Fund balance	-	-	-	-
Reserved for inventory	-	-	-	-
Reserved for self-insurance	-	-	-	-
Reserved for debt service	-	-	4,698,711	-
Reserved for encumbrances	3,444	305,128	-	236
Designated-subsequent year expenditures	-	5,338,070	33,850	16,364,579
Undesignated	-	28,612,855	-	6,722,462
<b>Total fund balance</b>	<b>3,444</b>	<b>34,256,053</b>	<b>4,732,561</b>	<b>23,087,277</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 2,268,506</b>	<b>\$ 36,583,036</b>	<b>\$ 4,856,487</b>	<b>\$ 24,514,694</b>

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.

Proprietary Fund Type	Account Groups		Totals (Memorandum Only) Primary Government	Component Units	Totals (Memorandum Only) Reporting Entity
	General Fixed Assets	General Long-term Debt			
\$ 121,225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,508,130	\$ 12,813,612	\$ 16,321,742
2,122,353	-	-	53,827,183	6,752,821	60,580,004
-	-	-	8,586,278	5,822,673	14,408,951
-	-	-	1,739,802	400,525	2,140,327
-	-	-	2,507,735	66,776	2,574,511
-	-	-	-	363,414	363,414
-	-	-	-	4,860,353	4,860,353
-	-	-	297,173	187,146	484,319
-	-	-	-	3,284	3,284
-	45,076,486	-	45,076,486	14,288,335	59,364,821
-	-	4,732,561	4,732,561	-	4,732,561
-	-	21,034,377	21,034,377	480,037	21,514,414
<u>\$ 2,243,578</u>	<u>\$ 45,076,486</u>	<u>\$ 25,766,938</u>	<u>\$ 141,309,725</u>	<u>\$ 46,038,976</u>	<u>\$ 187,348,701</u>
\$ 97,092	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,704,261	\$ 2,023,435	\$ 4,727,696
-	-	-	776,782	-	776,782
-	-	-	205,231	-	205,231
-	-	-	-	34,177	34,177
-	-	-	2,431,339	143,172	2,574,511
-	-	-	122,867	-	122,867
-	-	-	-	968,574	968,574
-	-	-	-	51,005	51,005
-	-	-	-	1,683,904	1,683,904
630,094	-	-	630,094	-	630,094
-	-	25,766,938	25,766,938	1,051,430	26,818,368
<u>727,186</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,766,938</u>	<u>32,637,512</u>	<u>5,955,697</u>	<u>38,593,209</u>
-	45,076,486	-	45,076,486	7,756,467	52,832,953
-	-	-	-	74,222	74,222
-	-	-	-	624,208	624,208
-	-	-	-	28,389	28,389
-	-	-	-	4,767	4,767
1,516,392	-	-	1,516,392	20,440,414	21,956,806
-	-	-	-	145	145
-	-	-	-	624,679	624,679
-	-	-	4,698,711	-	4,698,711
-	-	-	308,808	320	309,128
-	-	-	21,736,499	23,530	21,760,029
-	-	-	35,335,317	10,506,138	45,841,455
<u>1,516,392</u>	<u>45,076,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>108,672,213</u>	<u>40,083,279</u>	<u>148,755,492</u>
<u>\$ 2,243,578</u>	<u>\$ 45,076,486</u>	<u>\$ 25,766,938</u>	<u>\$ 141,309,725</u>	<u>\$ 46,038,976</u>	<u>\$ 187,348,701</u>



# PARISH OF ASCENSION ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNITS

## COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Capital Projects	Totals		Component Units	Totals (Memorandum Only) Reporting Entity
					Primary Government	Memorandum Only		
<b>REVENUES</b>								
Taxes	\$ 1,154,792	\$ 28,105,613	\$ 785	\$ -	\$ 29,261,190	\$ 10,409,056	\$ 39,670,246	
Licenses and permits	1,505,649	-	-	-	1,505,649	-	1,505,649	
Intergovernmental	1,177,593	2,012,723	-	102,502	3,292,818	3,070,612	6,363,430	
Charges for services	-	46,716	-	-	46,716	5,311,677	5,358,393	
Fines and forfeitures	-	75,355	-	-	75,355	1,579,337	1,654,692	
Miscellaneous	73,871	1,994,091	391,497	1,236,031	3,695,490	815,997	4,511,487	
Total revenues	3,911,905	32,234,498	392,282	1,338,533	37,877,218	21,186,679	59,063,897	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
General government	4,923,274	437,657	-	-	5,360,931	6,497,924	11,858,855	
Public safety	627,510	3,024,076	-	-	3,651,586	12,357,120	16,008,706	
Public works	-	8,138,261	-	-	8,138,261	-	8,138,261	
Health and welfare	915,856	2,263,811	-	-	3,179,667	-	3,179,667	
Culture and recreation	47,621	3,024,778	-	-	3,072,399	21,970	3,094,369	
Intergovernmental	-	93,887	-	-	93,887	-	93,887	
Debt service	7,500	-	3,470,678	-	3,478,178	713,545	4,191,723	
Capital projects	-	-	-	5,625,691	5,625,691	-	5,625,691	
Total expenditures	6,521,761	16,982,470	3,470,678	5,625,691	32,600,600	19,590,559	52,191,159	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,609,856)	15,252,028	(3,078,396)	(4,287,158)	5,276,618	1,596,120	6,872,738	

# OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)

Operating transfers in	5,048,537	7,348,797	3,420,139	5,538,430	21,355,903	68,636	21,424,539
Operating transfers out	(2,494,298)	(18,629,587)	(281,390)	(1,752)	(21,407,027)	(30,370)	(21,437,397)
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,554,239	(11,280,790)	3,138,749	5,536,678	(51,124)	38,266	(12,858)
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)	(55,617)	3,971,238	60,353	1,249,520	5,225,494	1,634,386	6,859,880
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>							
Beginning of year	59,061	30,284,815	4,673,267	21,837,757	56,854,900	9,520,426	66,375,326
Residual equity transfer	-	-	(1,059)	-	(1,059)	-	(1,059)
End of year	\$ 3,444	\$ 34,256,053	\$ 4,732,561	\$ 23,087,277	\$ 62,079,335	\$ 11,154,812	\$ 73,234,147

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.



**PARISH OF ASCENSION  
GENERAL, SPECIAL REVENUE, DEBT SERVICE AND  
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND TYPES**

**COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCES - BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL**

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	General			Special Revenue		
	Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Taxes	\$ 1,103,000	\$ 1,154,792	\$ 51,792	\$ 27,303,050	\$ 28,105,613	\$ 802,563
Licenses and permits	1,423,870	1,505,649	81,779	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	3,331,700	1,177,593	(2,154,107)	1,959,653	2,012,723	53,070
Charges for services	-	-	-	43,800	46,716	2,916
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	65,000	75,355	10,355
Miscellaneous	76,600	73,871	(2,729)	1,372,943	1,994,091	621,148
Total revenues	5,935,170	3,911,905	(2,023,265)	30,744,446	32,234,498	1,490,052
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>						
General government	5,259,707	4,923,274	336,433	418,685	437,657	18,972
Public safety	557,930	627,510	(69,580)	3,171,525	3,024,076	147,449
Public works	-	-	-	8,869,721	8,138,261	731,460
Health and welfare	3,063,164	915,856	2,147,308	2,358,190	2,263,811	94,379
Culture and recreation	44,700	47,621	(2,921)	3,496,032	3,024,778	471,254
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	81,547	93,887	(12,340)
Debt service	-	7,500	(7,500)	-	-	-
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	8,925,501	6,521,761	2,403,740	18,395,700	16,982,470	1,413,230
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,990,331)	(2,609,856)	380,475	12,348,746	15,252,028	2,903,282
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Operating transfers in	5,538,419	5,048,537	(489,882)	7,312,730	7,348,797	36,067
Operating transfers out	(2,593,530)	(2,494,298)	99,232	(18,969,739)	(18,629,587)	340,152
Total other financing sources (uses)	2,944,889	2,554,239	(390,650)	(11,657,009)	(11,280,790)	376,219
Excess of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	\$ (45,442)	(55,617)	\$ (10,175)	\$ 691,737	3,971,238	\$ 3,279,501
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>						
Beginning of year		59,061			30,284,815	
Residual equity transfer from Criminal Court Fund		-			-	
End of year		\$ 3,444			\$ 34,256,053	

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.

Debt Service			Capital Projects		
Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)	Budget	Actual	Variance - favorable (unfavorable)
\$ 750	\$ 785	\$ 35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	110,670	102,502	(8,168)
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
304,809	391,497	86,688	878,300	1,236,031	357,731
305,559	392,282	86,723	988,970	1,338,533	349,563
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
3,471,640	3,470,678	962	-	-	-
-	-	-	8,196,190	5,625,691	2,570,499
3,471,640	3,470,678	962	8,196,190	5,625,691	2,570,499
(3,166,081)	(3,078,396)	87,685	(7,207,220)	(4,287,158)	2,920,062
3,420,240	3,420,139	(101)	5,361,720	5,538,430	176,710
(202,000)	(281,390)	(79,390)	(2,200)	(1,752)	448
3,218,240	3,138,749	(79,491)	5,359,520	5,536,678	177,158
\$ 52,159	60,353	\$ 8,194	\$ (1,847,700)	1,249,520	\$ 3,097,220
	4,673,267			21,837,757	
	(1,059)			-	
\$ 4,732,561			\$ 23,087,277		



**PARISH OF ASCENSION**  
**ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND DISCRETELY PRESENTED**  
**COMPONENT UNITS**

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES**  
**AND CHANGES IN RETAINED EARNINGS**

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	Internal Service	Component Units	Totals (Memorandum Only) 2000
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>			
Charges for services	\$ -	\$ 284,464	\$ 284,464
Patient revenue, net	-	18,897,136	18,897,136
Insurance premiums	620,136	-	620,136
Interest, net	108,576	-	108,576
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total operating revenues	<u>728,712</u>	<u>19,181,600</u>	<u>19,910,312</u>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Cost of water	-	118,780	118,780
Depreciation	-	606,261	606,261
Maintenance	-	27,715	27,715
Professional services	47,646	12,556	60,202
Management fees	-	52,974	52,974
Insurance premiums	356,978	-	356,978
Insurance claims	364,798	-	364,798
Bad debts	-	4,711	4,711
Miscellaneous	-	18,192	18,192
Hospitals	-	18,019,356	18,019,356
Total operating expenses	<u>769,422</u>	<u>18,860,545</u>	<u>19,629,967</u>
Operating loss	<u>( 40,710)</u>	<u>321,055</u>	<u>280,345</u>
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>			
Taxes	-	668,565	668,565
Interest, net	-	344,122	344,122
Grants	-	240,196	240,196
Loss due to impairment	-	( 146,691)	( 146,691)
Miscellaneous	-	( 508)	( 508)
Other	-	129,014	129,014
Net nonoperating revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>1,234,698</u>	<u>1,234,698</u>
Net income (loss)	<u>( 40,710)</u>	<u>1,555,753</u>	<u>1,515,043</u>
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS</b>			
Beginning of year	<u>1,557,102</u>	<u>18,917,817</u>	<u>20,474,919</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 1,516,392</u>	<u>\$ 20,473,570</u>	<u>\$ 21,989,962</u>

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.



**PARISH OF ASCENSION**  
**ALL PROPRIETARY FUND TYPES AND DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNITS**  
**COMBINED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	Internal Service	Component Units	Totals (Memorandum Only) 2000
<b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net income (loss)	\$ (40,710)	\$ 1,555,755	\$ 1,515,045
Adjustments of net income (loss):			
Depreciation	-	606,932	606,932
Loss on disposition of assets	-	149,618	149,618
Provision for bad debts	-	459,374	459,374
Change in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	20,053	(15,275)	4,778
Other assets	-	332,201	332,201
Inventory	-	(10,493)	(10,493)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(27,675)	338,654	310,979
Payables from restricted assets	-	2,920	2,920
Estimated third-party payer settlements	-	(4,119,138)	(4,119,138)
Net cash used by operating activities	(48,332)	(699,452)	(747,784)
<b>CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Decrease (increase) in investments	32,228	767,309	799,537
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Acquisition of capital assets	-	(938,575)	(938,575)
Payment on long term debt	-	(45,107)	(45,107)
Proceeds from long term debt	-	307,000	307,000
Proceeds of sale of capital assets	-	156	156
Grant proceeds	-	14,850	14,850
Capital contributed by customers and parish	-	390,920	390,920
Net cash used for capital and related financing activities	-	(270,756)	(270,756)
Increase (decrease) in cash	(16,104)	(202,899)	(219,003)
<b>CASH</b>			
Beginning of period	137,329	1,695,339	1,832,668
End of period	\$ 121,225	\$ 1,492,440	\$ 1,613,665

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.

**PARISH OF ASCENSION**  
**ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNITS**  
**COMBINING BALANCE SHEET**

December 31, 2000

	District Attorney (2)	Sheriff (4)	Clerk of Court (4)	Assessor (2)	Parish Court (4)	Indigent Defender Board (1)	Criminal Court
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 847,133	\$ 6,395,274	\$ 2,254,786	\$ 1,061,723	\$ 148,589	\$ 193,057	\$ -
Investments	-	-	900,000	-	-	-	-
Accounts receivable, net	-	545,332	99,854	15,028	-	-	-
Due from other governments	85,225	138,660	-	67,371	20,895	19,595	53,949
Due from other funds	11,783	-	49,636	-	5,357	-	-
Inventory	-	145	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted assets	-	758,564	-	-	-	-	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-	938	-	-
Prepaid insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed assets	359,824	4,941,829	1,237,493	116,865	161,307	-	-
Amount to be provided for retirement of general long-term debt	-	405,730	39,743	-	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,303,965</b>	<b>\$ 13,185,534</b>	<b>\$ 4,581,512</b>	<b>\$ 1,260,987</b>	<b>\$ 337,086</b>	<b>\$ 212,632</b>	<b>\$ 53,949</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 34,348	\$ 311,986	\$ 24,431	\$ 11,377	\$ 1,857	\$ 54	\$ 34,933
Due to other governments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due to other funds	11,783	-	49,636	-	5,357	-	19,016
Due to taxing bodies	-	968,574	-	-	-	-	-
Payable from restricted assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsettled deposits	-	-	1,683,904	-	-	-	-
Long - term payables	-	405,730	39,743	-	-	-	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>46,131</b>	<b>1,686,290</b>	<b>1,797,714</b>	<b>11,377</b>	<b>7,214</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53,949</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>							
Investment in general fixed assets	359,824	4,941,829	1,237,493	116,866	161,307	-	-
Contributed capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Customers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Federal, state and local grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved - revenue bonds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved - replacements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreserved	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved for inventory	-	145	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved for self-insurance	-	624,679	-	-	-	-	-
Reserved for encumbrances	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Designated - subsequent year expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Undesignated	898,010	5,932,591	1,546,305	1,132,744	168,565	212,578	-
<b>Total fund balance</b>	<b>1,257,834</b>	<b>11,499,244</b>	<b>2,783,798</b>	<b>1,249,610</b>	<b>329,872</b>	<b>212,578</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 1,303,965</b>	<b>\$ 13,185,534</b>	<b>\$ 4,581,512</b>	<b>\$ 1,260,987</b>	<b>\$ 337,086</b>	<b>\$ 212,632</b>	<b>\$ 53,949</b>

- (1) For the year ended December 31, 1998  
(2) For the year ended December 31, 1999  
(3) For the year ended March 31, 2000  
(4) For the year ended June 30, 2000  
(5) For the year ended August 31, 2000

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.



Civic Center	Communication District (2)	Judicial Expense (2)	East Ascension Hospital (3)	West Ascension Hospital (5)	Waterworks District No. 2 (2)	Waterworks District No. 4 (5)	Sewerage District No. 6	Waterworks District No. 7	Totals
\$ 5	\$ 129,392	\$ 339,794	\$ 876,177	\$ 300,309	\$ 230,259	\$ 5,631	\$ 50	\$ 31,453	\$ 12,813,612
29,927	100,120	-	103,350	5,515,810	-	-	103,614	-	6,752,821
360	27,099	-	4,370,384	722,757	22,190	13,108	6,561	-	5,822,673
-	-	14,830	-	-	-	-	-	-	400,525
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	66,776
-	-	-	227,063	136,206	-	-	-	-	363,414
-	-	-	4,046,977	-	19,060	35,752	-	-	4,860,353
-	-	-	100,422	73,497	11,610	679	-	-	187,146
-	-	-	-	-	1,175	2,109	-	-	3,284
-	846,911	92,237	4,373,160	1,148,144	546,334	57,923	401,308	5,000	14,288,335
-	34,564	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	480,037
<u>\$ 30,292</u>	<u>\$ 1,138,086</u>	<u>\$ 446,861</u>	<u>\$14,097,533</u>	<u>\$ 7,896,723</u>	<u>\$ 830,628</u>	<u>\$ 115,202</u>	<u>\$ 511,533</u>	<u>\$ 36,453</u>	<u>\$ 46,038,976</u>
\$ 1,770	\$ -	\$ 562	\$ 1,214,801	\$ 319,436	\$ 11,202	\$ 14,678	\$ 42,000	\$ -	\$ 2,023,435
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,177	34,177
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57,380	-	143,172
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	968,574
-	-	-	-	-	15,904	11,455	-	23,646	51,005
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,683,904
-	34,564	-	174,172	-	343,221	54,000	-	-	1,051,430
<u>1,770</u>	<u>34,564</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>1,388,973</u>	<u>319,436</u>	<u>370,327</u>	<u>80,133</u>	<u>99,380</u>	<u>57,823</u>	<u>5,955,697</u>
-	846,911	92,237	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,756,467
-	-	-	-	-	47,607	21,615	-	5,000	74,222
-	-	-	-	-	190,350	46,900	387,858	-	624,208
-	-	-	-	-	-	28,389	-	-	28,389
-	-	-	-	-	-	4,767	-	-	4,767
-	-	-	12,708,560	7,577,287	222,344	( 65,702)	24,295	( 26,370)	20,440,414
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	145
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	624,679
320	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	320
23,530	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,530
4,672	256,611	354,062	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,506,138
<u>28,522</u>	<u>1,103,522</u>	<u>446,299</u>	<u>12,708,560</u>	<u>7,577,287</u>	<u>460,301</u>	<u>35,069</u>	<u>412,153</u>	<u>( 21,370)</u>	<u>40,083,279</u>
<u>\$ 30,292</u>	<u>\$ 1,138,086</u>	<u>\$ 446,861</u>	<u>\$14,097,533</u>	<u>\$ 7,896,723</u>	<u>\$ 830,628</u>	<u>\$ 115,202</u>	<u>\$ 511,533</u>	<u>\$ 36,453</u>	<u>\$ 46,038,976</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION**  
**ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPE**  
**COMPONENT UNITS**

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES,**  
**EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	District Attorney (2)	Sheriff (4)	Clerk of Court (4)	Assessor (2)
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ -	\$ 10,409,056	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental	1,132,766	1,168,545	-	769,301
Charges for services	611,067	2,404,355	1,855,024	-
Fines and forfeitures	489,324	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	82,232	271,787	269,022	72,262
Total revenues	<u>2,315,389</u>	<u>14,253,743</u>	<u>2,124,046</u>	<u>841,563</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
General government	1,990,849	-	2,323,343	689,078
Public safety	-	12,357,120	-	-
Culture and recreation	-	-	-	-
Debt service	-	653,189	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>1,990,849</u>	<u>13,010,309</u>	<u>2,323,343</u>	<u>689,078</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>324,540</u>	<u>1,243,434</u>	<u>( 199,297)</u>	<u>152,485</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Operating transfers in				
General Fund	-	-	-	-
Recreation Fund	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers out				
FINS Program Fund	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources (uses)	<u>324,540</u>	<u>1,243,434</u>	<u>( 199,297)</u>	<u>152,485</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>				
Beginning of year	<u>573,470</u>	<u>5,313,981</u>	<u>1,745,602</u>	<u>980,259</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 898,010</u>	<u>\$ 6,557,415</u>	<u>\$ 1,546,305</u>	<u>\$ 1,132,744</u>

- (1) For the year ended December 31, 1998  
(2) For the year ended December 31, 1999  
(3) For the year ended March 31, 2000 (not used)  
(4) For the year ended June 30, 2000  
(5) For the year ended August 31, 2000 (not used)

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.



<u>Parish Court (4)</u>	<u>Indigent Defender Board (1)</u>	<u>Criminal Court</u>	<u>Civic Center</u>	<u>Communication District (2)</u>	<u>Judicial Expense (2)</u>	<u>Totals</u>
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,409,056
-	-	-	-	-	-	3,070,612
-	-	-	11,560	290,818	138,853	5,311,677
179,963	345,813	564,237	-	-	-	1,579,337
2,995	-	92,629	6,854	7,853	10,363	815,997
<u>182,958</u>	<u>345,813</u>	<u>656,866</u>	<u>18,414</u>	<u>298,671</u>	<u>149,216</u>	<u>21,186,679</u>
132,016	364,957	733,547	-	207,868	56,266	6,497,924
-	-	-	-	-	-	12,357,120
-	-	-	21,970	-	-	21,970
-	-	-	-	60,356	-	713,545
<u>132,016</u>	<u>364,957</u>	<u>733,547</u>	<u>21,970</u>	<u>268,224</u>	<u>56,266</u>	<u>19,590,559</u>
50,942	( 19,144)	( 76,681)	( 3,556)	30,447	92,950	1,596,120
-	-	63,636	-	-	-	63,636
-	-	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
-	-	( 30,370)	-	-	-	( 30,370)
-	-	33,266	5,000	-	-	38,266
50,942	( 19,144)	( 43,415)	1,444	30,447	92,950	1,634,386
<u>117,623</u>	<u>231,722</u>	<u>43,415</u>	<u>27,078</u>	<u>226,164</u>	<u>261,112</u>	<u>9,520,426</u>
<u>\$ 168,565</u>	<u>\$ 212,578</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 28,522</u>	<u>\$ 256,611</u>	<u>\$ 354,062</u>	<u>\$ 11,154,812</u>

**PARISH OF ASCENSION**  
**ALL DISCRETELY PRESENTED PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE COMPONENT UNITS**  
**COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES**  
**IN RETAINED EARNINGS (ACCUMULATED DEFICIT)**

For the year ended December 31, 2000

	East Ascension Hospital (3)	West Ascension Hospital (5)	Waterworks District No. 2 (2)	Waterworks District No. 4 (5)	Sewerage District No. 6	Waterworks District No. 7	Totals
<b>OPERATING REVENUES</b>							
Charges for services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 142,166	\$ 100,694	\$ 41,604	\$ -	\$ 284,464
Patient revenue, net	15,837,705	3,059,431	-	-	-	-	18,897,136
Total operating revenues	15,837,705	3,059,431	142,166	100,694	41,604	-	19,181,600
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>							
Cost of water	-	-	57,454	61,326	-	-	118,780
Depreciation	470,147	100,254	11,146	3,913	20,801	-	606,261
Maintenance	-	-	6,574	4,455	16,686	-	27,715
Professional services	-	-	9,463	3,093	-	-	12,556
Management fees	-	-	37,406	15,568	-	-	52,974
Bad debts	-	-	4,080	631	-	-	4,711
Miscellaneous	-	-	7,549	6,679	3,850	114	18,192
Hospitals	14,166,784	3,852,572	-	-	-	-	18,019,356
Total operating expenses	14,636,931	3,952,826	133,672	95,665	41,337	114	18,860,545
Operating (loss)	1,200,774	( 893,395)	8,494	5,029	267	( 114)	321,055
<b>NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES)</b>							
Taxes	40	668,525	-	-	-	-	668,565
Interest, net	37,637	304,496	( 11,598)	( 3,038)	16,625	-	344,122
Grants	240,196	-	-	-	-	-	240,196
Loss due to impairment	-	-	-	-	( 146,691)	-	( 146,691)
Miscellaneous	-	-	86	47	( 641)	-	( 508)
Other	128,514	-	-	-	500	-	129,014
Net nonoperating revenues (expenses)	406,387	973,021	( 11,512)	( 2,991)	( 130,207)	-	1,234,698
Net income (loss) transferred to retained earnings	1,607,161	79,626	( 3,018)	2,038	( 129,940)	( 114)	1,555,753
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS (ACCUMULATED DEFICIT)</b>							
Beginning of year	11,101,399	7,497,661	225,362	( 34,584)	154,235	( 26,256)	18,917,817
End of year	\$ 12,708,560	\$ 7,577,287	\$ 222,344	\$ ( 32,546)	\$ 24,295	\$ ( 26,370)	\$ 20,473,570

- (1) For the year ended December 31, 1998 (not used)  
(2) For the year ended December 31, 1999  
(3) For the year ended March 31, 2000  
(4) For the year ended June 30, 2000 (not used)  
(5) For the year ended August 31, 2000

Notes on Exhibit A-8 are an integral part of this statement.



## PARISH OF ASCENSION

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The Ascension Parish Council (the Council) is the governing authority for Ascension Parish (the Parish) and is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana. The Council, under the provisions of the Ascension Parish Home Rule Charter, which was effective January 1, 1994, enacts ordinances, sets policy and establishes programs in such fields as social welfare, transportation, drainage, public safety, and health services.

The accompanying financial statements conform, except where otherwise noted, to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) applicable to government units.

##### REPORTING ENTITY

The financial reporting entity consists of (1) the primary government (all funds under the auspices of the Parish President and the Parish of Ascension), (2) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (3) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *the Financial Reporting Entity*, established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Parish of Ascension for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria are as follows:

- o Legal status of the potential component unit including the right to incur its own debt, levy its own taxes and charges, expropriate property in its own name, sue and be sued, and the right to buy, sell and lease property in its own name.
- o Whether the Parish governing authority (Ascension Parish Council and/or Parish President) appoints a majority of board members of the potential component unit.
- o Fiscal interdependency between the Parish and the potential component unit.
- o Imposition of will by the Parish on the potential component unit.
- o Financial benefit/burden relationship between the Parish and the potential component unit.

Based on the previous criteria, Ascension Parish management has included the following component units in the financial reporting entity:



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)**

**Blended Component Units**

The following component units are reported as part of the primary government in the General-Purpose Financial Statements of the Parish of Ascension.

**East and West Ascension Drainage Districts No. 1**

The East and West Ascension Drainage Districts provide maintenance, improvements, and repairs to the gravity drainage systems in their respective parts of the Parish. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes, state revenue sharing funds, and dedicated sales taxes. The fiscal year for the Districts is the calendar year.

**Health Unit**

The Health Unit operates the Parish Health Unit. Financing is provided primarily by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing. The fiscal year for the Health Unit is the calendar year.

**Mental Health Unit**

The Mental Health Unit provides that portion of the operations of the Parish mental health center not provided by the State of Louisiana, Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing. The fiscal year for the Mental Health Unit is the calendar year.

**Fire Protection Districts No. 1 and No. 2**

The Fire Protection Districts No. 1 and No. 2 offers maintenance and operation of a fire protection system consisting of 12 fire service units: Modeste Volunteer, Sunshine Volunteer, Palo-Alto McCall Volunteer, Donaldsonville, Geismar Volunteer, Galvez-Lake Volunteer, Prairieville, Fifth Ward, St. Amant, Sorrento, Seventh District Volunteer and Gonzales. Financing is provided by sales and use tax funds which are allocated among the service units. The fiscal year for the Districts is the calendar year.

**Recreation Commission**

The Recreation Commission provides recreational activities for the Parish. The Commission is funded primarily by an annual budgetary dedication of six and two-thirds percent of the one-percent parish wide sales tax. The fiscal year for the Commission is the calendar year.

**Tourist Commission**

The Commission promotes local tourism. The Tourist Commission receives sales taxes on the room rentals of hotels and motels. The fiscal year for the Commission is the calendar year.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)**

**Blended Component Units (Continued)**

**Ascension Parish Library**

The Library provides citizens of the Parish access to library materials, books, magazines, records, and films. It is used to account for the collection of a parish-wide ad valorem tax dedicated to the maintenance of the library system. The fiscal year for the Library is the calendar year.

**Discrete Component Units**

Funding for the following state constitutionally defined parish officials is included in the Parish General Fund. These officials, however, have certain statutorily defined sources of funds for their own operating and/or capital budget discretion. These funds have been discretely presented in the Parish General-purpose Financial Report.

District Attorney of the Twenty-Third Judicial District (for the year ended December 31, 1999.)

Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender Board (for the year ended December 31, 1998, a biennial audit.)

The following agencies are also reported in the component units columns of the General-Purpose Financial Statements:

**Ascension Parish Sheriff**

The Sheriff, an elected official as defined in the Louisiana State Constitution, is a legally separate entity. The Parish provides funding for the Sheriff's facilities and equipment including the correctional institution (Ascension Parish Jail). The Sheriff's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2000, are included in this report.

**Ascension Parish Clerk of Court**

The Ascension Parish Clerk of Court is a legally separate parish entity established by the State Constitution. The Parish governing authority (Ascension Parish Council) is required by statute to fund certain equipment, facilities, and binding of permanent records in the office of the Clerk of Court. The Clerk's office provides its own operating budget funds from fees and charges. The Clerk of Court's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2000, are presented in this report.

**Ascension Parish Assessor**

The Parish Assessor, an elected official provided for by the Louisiana State Constitution, is a legally separate entity that levies its own property tax. Fiscal interdependency exists between the Parish and the Assessor only in that the Parish is required by state statute to provide the Assessor office facilities. The Assessor's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1999, are presented in this report.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)**

**Discrete Component Units (Continued)**

**Ascension Parish Communication District**

The Communication District is a legally separate entity. The Parish appoints all members to the District's Board of Commissioners. The District's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1999, are presented in this report.

**Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension Judicial Expense Fund**

The Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension Judicial Expense Fund is a legally separate entity established under state statutes. The Parish Court's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2000, are presented in this report.

**Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund**

The Twenty-Third Judicial District Judicial Expense Fund was established in 1995 under Act No. 435 which was amended to Title 13 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950. The Expense Fund was established for the purpose of paying expenses for the Court deemed necessary by the Judges for efficient operations of the court. The Expense Fund's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1999, are presented in this report.

**Sewerage District No. 6 of Ascension Parish**

The Sewerage District is a legally separate entity. The Parish has advanced funds for serving debt issued by the District; therefore, the District has recorded amounts due to the Parish. The Parish of Ascension has secured the necessary operating permit and is actively operating the sewer system.

**Related Organizations**

The following entities were established pursuant to state statutes for various public purposes within Ascension Parish. The Council appoints and removes the board members of each respective agency. Each agency is fiscally independent from the Parish, issues its debt, approves its budgets, and sets its rates and charges. The primary government has no authority to designate management, or approve or modify rates. The Parish is not obligated for the debt issues of these agencies. Each of these component units is listed below along with its fiscal year end.

East Ascension Hospital Service District	March 31, 2000
West Ascension Hospital Service District	August 31, 2000
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2	December 31, 1999
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 4	August 31, 2000
West Ascension Water Works District No. 7	December 31, 2000



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**REPORTING ENTITY (CONTINUED)**

**Related Organizations (Continued)**

Complete financial statements of the Parish component units can be obtained at the Office of the Legislative Auditor of the State of Louisiana, 1600 North Third Street, P. O. Box 94937, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397 or at the following administrative offices:

District Attorney  
P. O. Box 279  
Napoleonville, LA 70390

Ascension Parish Sheriff  
P. O. Box 268  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Clerk of Court  
P. O. 192  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Assessor  
P. O. Box 544  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Court  
P. O. Box 1910  
Gonzales, LA 70737

Twenty-Third Judicial District Indigent Defender  
828 South Irma Blvd.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

Twenty-Third District Judicial Expense Fund  
828 South Irma Blvd.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

Ascension Parish Communication District  
P. O. Box 268  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

East Ascension Hospital Service District  
615 East Worth R.  
Gonzales, LA 70737

West Ascension Hospital Service District  
P. O. Box 186  
Donaldsonville, LA 70346

Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2  
P. O. Box 6  
White Castle, LA 70788

Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 4  
P. O. Box 6  
White Castle, LA 70788



## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### FUND ACCOUNTING

The accounts of the Parish are organized on the basis of funds and account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, equity, revenues and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be expended and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The various funds and account groups of the primary government presented in the financial statements are described as follows:

#### Governmental Fund Types

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions of the Parish are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of expendable financial resources and related liabilities of the Parish are accounted for through governmental funds. Measurement is focused upon determining changes in financial position, rather than net income. The following are the governmental fund types of the Parish:

**General Fund** - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Parish. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Special Revenue Funds** - Special revenue funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than major capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. Additionally, the general fund of each component unit is reported as a special revenue fund.

**Debt Service Funds** - Debt service funds are used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs.

**Capital Projects Funds** - Capital projects funds are used to account for financial resources to be used for the acquisition or construction of major capital facilities (other than those financed by Proprietary Funds).

#### Proprietary Fund Types

**Enterprise Funds** - Enterprise funds are used to account for operations (1) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs and expenses, including depreciation, of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (2) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**FUND ACCOUNTING (CONTINUED)**

*Internal Service Funds* - Internal service funds are used to account for the financing of goods and services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the government and to other government units, on a cost reimbursement basis.

The only proprietary fund type of the primary government consists of a partial self-insurance program as an internal service fund.

**Account Groups**

Account groups are used to establish accounting control and accountability for the Parish's fixed assets and general long-term debt. The following are the account groups of the Parish:

*General Fixed Assets Account Group* - This group of accounts represents a summary of the fixed assets of the Parish. Capital expenditures are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund types at the time of purchase and are subsequently recorded, at cost, for control purposes, in the general fixed assets account group.

In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for governmental entities, depreciation is not recorded on general fixed assets.

*General Long-Term Debt Account Group* - This group of accounts represents a summary of the long-term debt of the Parish.

**BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Governmental funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting wherein revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become available and measurable. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for unmatured interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due.

The modified accrual basis of accounting as applied to the major sources of revenue is as follows:

Ad valorem taxes and the related state revenue sharing (which is based on population and homesteads in the Parish) are recorded in the year the taxes are assessed. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar year basis, become due on November 15th of each year, and become delinquent after December 31st. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the following year.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**BASIS OF ACCOUNTING (CONTINUED)**

Sales taxes are recorded when in the possession of the intermediary collecting agent and are recognized as revenue at that time.

Federal and state aid and grants are recorded as revenue when the Parish is entitled to the funds, generally corresponding to when grant related costs are incurred by the Parish.

Interest income on investments is recorded when investments mature and income is received.

All proprietary funds are accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus and a determination of net income and capital maintenance. With this measurement focus, all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. The proprietary funds use the accrual basis of accounting and apply all applicable FASB pronouncements in accounting and reporting for its proprietary operations. Revenues are recognized when earned, and expenses are recognized at the time liabilities are incurred.

**ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates are used primarily when accounting for depreciation, prepaid insurance, deferred revenue and claims payable.

**BUDGET POLICY AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING**

The Home Rule Charter for the Parish outlines procedures for adopting a budget for funds of the primary government.

1. No later than seventy-five days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the President is to submit detailed operating and capital budgets for all funds. The budgets submitted are to be balanced.
2. The Parish Council may amend the budget, except that the debt service shall not be reduced below the amount necessary to service the debt nor shall a fund deficit be created.
3. The Parish Council shall publish the budget summary at least ten days prior to conducting a public hearing.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**BUDGET POLICY AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING (CONTINUED)**

4. The Parish Council is to adopt the budget not less than thirty days before the commencement of the applicable fiscal year.
5. Once adopted, the President is able to transfer part or all of any appropriation within a department of a fund; however, the authority for other budget amendments resides with the Parish Council.

The budgets are to be prepared consistent with the accounting method used for the applicable fund and are amended periodically for changes in projected activity. At the end of each fiscal year, unexpended appropriations automatically lapse.

The portion of unreserved fund balance of individual funds designated for subsequent year's expenditures represents the extent to which the fund balance is used to balance the subsequent year's operating budget of that fund, as reflected in the legally adopted budget.

**ENCUMBRANCES**

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is utilized in the General Fund, certain Special Revenue and Capital Project Funds. For budgetary purposes appropriations lapse at fiscal year end except for that portion related to encumbered amounts. Encumbrances outstanding at year end are reported as reservations of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be honored during the subsequent year.

**CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS**

Cash and cash equivalents for the primary government includes cash accounts for payroll, Section 8, escrow account, Office of Emergency Preparedness, Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 and each individual fund's share of the consolidated cash account.

A consolidated bank account has been established for the primary government into which substantially all monies are deposited and from which most disbursements are made. In addition, investment purchases are charged and maturities are deposited to the consolidated bank account. The purpose of the consolidation of bank accounts was to provide administrative efficiency and to maximize investment earnings. The accounts entitled "Cash and Cash Equivalents" and "Investments" are therefore composed of a fund's pro rata share of the cash balance in the consolidated cash account plus its pro rata share of investments made through the investment of excess cash. Each fund shares in the investment earnings according to its average cash, cash equivalent, and investments balance, prorated among funds.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

The investment policies of the Parish are governed by state statutes and an adopted Council Investment Policy that includes depository and custodial contract provisions. Under the provisions of the Parish's investment policy, the Parish Treasurer is authorized to invest Parish funds in accordance with L.R.S. 39:1211-1245 and 33:2955 which allow, but are not limited to the following investment vehicles: United States Treasury Bonds, Treasury Notes, Treasury Bills, and fully collateralized interest bearing checking accounts and certificates of deposit. Other investment policy provisions require depositories to insure or collateralize all deposits in accordance with state law and require securities collateralizing deposits to be held by an independent third party with whom the Parish has a custodial agreement. Investment policies of the Parish discrete component units can be found in the individual component unit audit reports.

For purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash equivalents for each fund include demand deposit account balances, and certificates of deposit and U.S. government securities with original maturities of three months or less. Cash equivalent policies of the Parish's discrete component units can be found in the individual component unit audit reports.

Investments, which include time certificates of deposit and U.S. government securities, are stated at the lower of cost or market.

**SHORT-TERM INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES**

During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds. These receivables and payables are classified as due from other funds or due to other funds on the balance sheet and result primarily from participation in the consolidated cash account.

**INVENTORIES**

In the primary government's governmental fund types, inventories of supplies are recorded as expenditures at the time of purchase.

Information concerning inventory for the Parish's discretely presented component units can be found in the separately issued financial statements of each component unit

**BAD DEBTS**

Uncollectible amounts due for ad valorem taxes and other receivables are recognized as bad debts through the use of an allowance account or charged off at the time information becomes available which would indicate that the particular receivable is not collectible. In governmental fund types, the uncollectible amount is charged directly to the revenue reported. On the other hand, in proprietary fund types, the uncollectible amount is recognized as a bad debt expense.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION**

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations (general fixed assets) of the primary government are accounted for in the general fixed assets account group, and are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund types when purchased. All fixed assets have been valued at cost.

Fixed assets consisting of improvements (other than buildings), such as roads, curbs and gutters, streets and sidewalks, drainage systems, and lighting systems, have not been capitalized. Such assets are normally immovable and of value only to the Parish. Therefore, the purpose of stewardship for such capital expenditures is satisfied without recording these assets.

No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets, nor has interest been capitalized.

Proprietary component unit fixed assets are depreciated using the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives, in years, for depreciable assets are as follows:

Buildings and improvements	20 - 50 years
Equipment	5 - 20 years

**LONG-TERM DEBT**

Long-term liabilities that are financed from governmental funds are accounted for in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group.

Sales tax revenue bonds are secured by sales tax revenues. Payment of such debt is provided by sales tax revenue transferred to the appropriate debt service fund.

General obligation bonds are repaid from property taxes. These property taxes are shown as revenues in each general obligation bond debt service fund.

**RESERVES AND DESIGNATIONS OF EQUITY**

Some portions of fund balance and/or retained earnings are reserved to indicate that a portion of equity is legally restricted to a specific future use and is not available for appropriation or expenditure.

Designated portions of fund balance indicate tentative future spending plans, which may be changed and are subject to subsequent authorization before expenditures can be made. However, some designations have been legally authorized, such as the following: (a) "Designated for subsequent years' expenditures" is that portion of fund balance which has been earmarked to fund the following years' budgets, and (b) other designations are made for specific indicated purposes included in the title.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**TRANSFERS**

Advances between funds which are not expected to be repaid are accounted for as transfers. In those cases where repayment is expected, the advances are accounted for through the various interfund accounts.

**COMPENSATED ABSENCES**

All Parish primary government regular employees, excluding Ascension Parish Library personnel, earn vacation leave in varying amounts according to the employee's number of years of continuous service up to a maximum of one hundred-twenty days. Vacation is payable upon resignation or retirement at the employee's current rate of pay.

All Parish primary government, excluding Ascension Parish Library personnel, employees earn twelve days of sick leave per year. Sick leave is payable only upon retirement and only up to a maximum of 60 days.

Parish employees of certain job classifications may accrue compensatory time in lieu of overtime payment. Compensatory leave is accumulated without time limitations but must be taken within one year of earning the leave. Compensatory leave is paid by the Parish upon termination, resignation, retirement or death.

GASB Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*, requires governments to accrue compensated absences only to the extent it is probable that the employer will compensate employees for benefits through cash payments conditioned on the employees' termination or retirement. The Parish has recorded the following liabilities as of December 31, 2000, for certain salary-related benefits associated with the payment of compensated absences:

1. Accrued vacation for each employee is valued at the employee's current rate of pay.
2. No sick leave is recorded in the financial statements for active employees since the amount applicable under GASB Statement No. 16 is immaterial.
3. Compensatory leave, based on the employee's current rate of pay, is not recorded in the financial statements since the amount is immaterial.

In governmental funds, the total liability as stated above is included in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group. Accrued vacation, and related benefits will be paid from future years' resources.

Details of the compensated absences liability for the Parish discrete component units and the Ascension Parish Library, a blended component unit, can be found in the separately issued financial reports of each component unit.



**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**INSURANCE**

The primary government is partially self-insured for automobile, general, products and property liability claims on the first \$30,000 per occurrence, not to exceed \$125,000 in the aggregate. The Parish is also partially self-insured for all worker's compensation claims on the first \$200,000 per occurrence, not to exceed \$1,000,000 in the aggregate for a two year period. Reinsurance for losses in excess of self-insured amounts is carried by the Parish of Ascension. Estimated losses on claims are charged to expense in the period in which the loss is estimable. The Parish of Ascension utilizes an internal service fund to account for the transactions related to these self-insurance programs.

**TOTAL COLUMNS ON COMBINED STATEMENTS**

Total columns on the combined statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position or results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

**NOTE 2 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS**

The Parish maintains a consolidated cash management pool that is used by all funds except Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund, Section 8, and debt service funds. Each fund type's portion of the consolidated cash pool and the account balance of each fund type with a separate bank account are displayed on the combined balance sheet as "Cash and Cash Equivalents" or "Investments."

**Deposits**

At December 31, 2000, the carrying amount of the Primary Government's deposits (including demand deposit accounts and certificates of deposit) was \$9,508,671 and the bank balance was \$10,214,513. The bank balance is secured by federal depository insurance and collateral held by the Parish's agent in the Parish's name.

Certificates of deposit with an original maturity of 90 days or more totaling \$6,800,000 are classified on the combined balance sheet as "Investments."

**Investments**

The Parish's investments are U.S. Treasury Bills and Treasury Notes as well as obligations of U.S. Government Agencies. At December 31, 2000, the investments in U.S. Treasury and Agency obligations totaled \$47,027,183.

**NOTE 2 - CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments Summary**

The following is a reconciliation of the carrying amount of deposits and investments to "Cash and Cash Equivalents" and "Investments" for the Primary Government on the combined balance sheet.

Cash and cash equivalents:	
Deposits	\$ 2,708,671
Investments	796,298
Cash on hand	3,161
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>3,508,130</u>
Investments:	
Certificates of deposit	6,800,000
Investments	<u>47,027,183</u>
Total investments	<u>53,827,183</u>
Total	<u>\$ 57,335,313</u>

**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS**

Accounts receivable at December 31, 2000, were as follows:

**Primary Government**

Ad valorem taxes	\$ 6,240,018
Sales and use taxes	1,935,248
Assessment fees	135,532
Other	275,480
Total primary government	<u>8,586,278</u>

**Component Units**

Third-party payors	3,168,446
Patient accounts receivable	3,335,795
Fees, charges, and commissions	90,629
Sales and use tax	525,210
Water fees	83,193
Other	176,676
Subtotal	<u>7,379,949</u>
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(1,557,276)</u>
Total component units	<u>5,822,673</u>
Total	<u>\$ 14,408,951</u>



**NOTE 3 - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS  
(CONTINUED)**

Due from other governments at December 31, 2000, consists of the following:

**Primary Government**

State of Louisiana

State revenue sharing	\$ 542,562
Parish transportation	91,841
Severance tax	18,880
Beer tax	16,798
Grants	1,012,537
Other	<u>57,184</u>

Total primary government	<u>1,739,802</u>
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**Component Units**

State revenue sharing	59,590
Department of Social Services	16,565
Fines and forfeitures	163,099
Other	<u>161,271</u>

Total component units	<u>400,525</u>
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Total	<u>\$ 2,140,327</u>
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**NOTE 4 - AD VALOREM TAXES**

For the year ended December 31, 2000, taxes of \$6,300,215 were levied on property by the primary government with assessed valuations totaling \$490,043,860 and were dedicated as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Per \$1,000</u>
General:	
Outside municipal limits	\$ 2.86
Inside municipal limits	1.45
East Ascension Drainage	5.00
West Ascension Drainage	5.35
Lighting Districts	1.00 - 5.01
Health Unit	2.00
Mental Health Unit	.50
Library Maintenance	4.22
Council on Aging	1.50



**NOTE 4 - AD VALOREM TAXES (CONTINUED)**

Information concerning ad valorem taxes for the Parish's discretely presented component units can be found in the separately issued financial statements of each component unit.

The 1974 Louisiana Constitution (Article 7, Section 18) provided that land and improvements for residential purposes be assessed at 10% of fair market value; other property and electric cooperative properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 15%; and public service properties, excluding land, are to be assessed at 25% of fair market value. Fair market value is determined by the elected assessor of the Parish on all property subject to taxation except public service properties, which are valued by the Louisiana Tax Commission (LRS 47:1957). The correctness of assessments by the assessor is subject to review and certification by the Louisiana Tax Commission. The assessor is required to reappraise all property subject to taxation at intervals of not more than four years. At December 31, 2000, approximately \$18,000 (less than 1% of total taxes) has been paid under protest with the Sheriff and is subject to review by the Louisiana Tax Commission.

The Sheriff of Ascension Parish, as provided by State Law (LRS 33:1435), is the official tax collector of general property taxes levied by the Parish and Parish Special Districts.

The 2000 property tax calendar is as follows:

Millage Rates Adopted	October 19, 2000
Levy Date	October 19, 2000
Due Date	November 15, 2000
Lien Date	January 1, 2001
Collection Dates	December 1, 2000 to February 29, 2001

Property taxes become delinquent January 1 of the following year. If taxes are not paid by the due date, taxes bear interest at the rate of one and one-fourth percent per month until the taxes are paid (LRS 47:2101). After notice is given to the delinquent taxpayers, the Sheriff is required by the Constitution of the State of Louisiana to sell the least quantity of property necessary to settle the taxes and interest owed (LRS 47:2181). Therefore, there are no delinquent taxes at year-end.

All property taxes are recorded in governmental funds, as explained in Note 1. Revenues in government funds are recognized in the accounting period in which they become available and measurable. Property taxes are considered measurable in the calendar year of the tax levy. Accordingly, the entire tax roll, less an estimate for uncollectible taxes, is recorded as revenue in the current calendar year. Uncollectible taxes are those taxes, which based on past experience, will not be collected in the subsequent year and are primarily due to subsequent adjustments to the tax roll. No allowance for uncollectible taxes is recorded at December 31, 2000.

All of the taxes receivable at the end of the year are considered available. Available means due, or past due and receivable within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Property taxes are considered available because they are substantially collected by the tax collector within 60 days subsequent to year-end and are therefore available to liquidate liabilities of the current period.



# **NOTE 5 - RESTRICTED ASSETS**

Restricted assets of the discretely presented component units at December 31, 2000, were as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents - special revenue funds	\$	758,563
Cash and cash equivalents - proprietary funds		48,561
Investments		4,046,977
Due from operating accounts		6,252
Assessments and accrued interest receivable		65,824
		<u>4,926,177</u>
Less allowance for doubtful accounts		<u>(65,824)</u>
Total	\$	<u>4,860,353</u>

# **NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS**

A summary of changes in general fixed assets for the Primary Government for the year ended December 31, 2000, is as follows:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Additions (Deletions)	Balance End of Year
Land and buildings	\$ 23,083,080	\$ 2,233,023	\$ 25,316,103
Vehicles	5,287,693	1,540,080	6,827,773
Field equipment	5,641,503	778,203	6,419,706
Office equipment	3,437,469	(32,086)	3,405,383
Construction in progress	358,414	(336,875)	21,539
Library materials	<u>2,884,115</u>	<u>201,867</u>	<u>3,085,982</u>
	<u>\$ 40,692,274</u>	<u>\$ 4,384,212</u>	<u>\$ 45,076,486</u>

A summary of changes in fixed assets for component units is as follows:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Additions (Deletions)	Balance End of Year
District Attorney			
Office equipment	\$ 263,923	\$ 95,901	\$ 359,824
Ascension Parish Sheriff			
Equipment	4,218,511	723,318	4,941,829
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court			
Building improvements	458,309	124,666	582,975
Vehicles	18,819	19,805	38,624
Office equipment	357,676	258,218	615,894

NOTE 6 - FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

	Balance Beginning of Year	Net Additions (Deletions)	Balance End of Year
Ascension Parish Assessor			
Vehicles	\$ 55,940	\$ -	\$ 55,940
Office equipment	53,004	7,921	60,925
Ascension Parish Court			
Office equipment	159,007	2,300	161,307
Ascension Parish Judicial Expense Fund			
Building improvements	8,768	-	8,768
Equipment	74,410	9,059	83,469
East Ascension Hospital Service District			
Land and building	8,555,997	9,420	8,565,417
Equipment	4,844,194	(477,392)	4,366,802
West Ascension Hospital Service District			
Land and building	1,916,959	-	1,916,959
Equipment	909,741	94,616	1,004,357
Office equipment	33,257	-	33,257
Ascension Parish Water Works District 2			
Water System	373,492	361,629	735,121
Construction in progress	280,264	(280,264)	-
Ascension Parish Water Works District 4			
Water System	155,606	918	156,524
West Ascension Water Works District 7			
Land	5,000	-	5,000
Sewerage District No. 6			
Sewer system	416,039	(416,039)	-
Construction in progress	-	401,308	401,308
Ascension Parish Communication District			
Building improvements	45,040	-	45,040
Equipment	739,801	62,070	801,871
	<u>\$ 23,943,757</u>	<u>\$ 997,454</u>	<u>24,941,211</u>
Less accumulated depreciation:			
East Ascension Hospital Service District			(8,559,059)
West Ascension Hospital Service District			(1,806,429)
Ascension Parish Water Works District 2			(188,787)
Ascension Parish Water Works District 4			(98,601)
Sewerage District No. 6			-
			<u>\$ 14,288,335</u>



**NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT**

**DEBT OUTSTANDING - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT**

The following is a summary of long-term debt transactions for the primary government for the year ended December 31, 2000:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Additions	Deletions	Balance End of Year
Public improvement	\$ 26,320,000	\$ -	\$ 1,980,000	\$ 24,340,000
Certificate of indebtedness	495,000	-	85,000	410,000
Special assessment	434,000	-	55,000	379,000
Promissory notes	22,500	-	7,500	15,000
Accrued vacation leave	560,956	61,982	-	622,938
	<u>\$ 27,832,456</u>	<u>\$ 61,982</u>	<u>\$ 2,127,500</u>	<u>\$ 25,766,938</u>

Long-term debt obligations for the primary government at December 31, 2000, are comprised of the following individual issues:

***Public Improvement Bonds***

***Sales and Use Tax District No. 1***

\$1,810,000 Public improvement sales tax refunding bonds dated August 1996; due in annual installments of \$75,000 - \$230,000 through 2007; interest at 5.4% - 4.1%. See Note 8. \$ 1,215,000

***East Ascension Major Drainage Sales and Use Tax***

\$2,885,000 Drainage serial bonds dated June 1, 1993; due in annual installment of \$95,000 - \$130,000 in 2001; interest at 6.05% - 6.4%. See Note 8. 130,000

\$10,605,000 Drainage public improvement refunding bonds dated July 18, 1996; due in annual installments of \$70,000 - \$1,230,000 through 2011; interest at 5.55% - 3.6%. See Note 8. 9,250,000

\$10,000,000 Drainage serial bonds dated April 1, 1999; due in annual installments of \$325,000 - \$790,000 through 2018; interest at 3.95% - 7% 9,675,000

**NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)**

**DEBT OUTSTANDING - PRIMARY GOVERNMENT (CONTINUED)**

*Sales Tax District No. 2*

\$7,000,000 serial bonds dated February 1, 1995; due in annual installments of \$490,000 - \$920,000 through 2005; interest at 5.25% - 9%.

4,070,000

Total public improvement bonds 24,340,000

*Certificate of Indebtedness*

\$800,000 Council on Aging certificate of indebtedness; due in annual installments of \$70,000 - \$110,000 through 2004; interest at 6%.

410,000

*Special Assessment Bonds*

\$606,900 Paving Certificates Series 1997; due in annual installments of \$54,000 - \$55,000 through March 2007; interest at 5.2% - 6.2%.

379,000

*Promissory Note*

\$67,500 non-interest bearing note due in annual installments of \$7,500 through 2002.

15,000

*Accrued Vacation Leave* 622,938

Total long-term debt \$ 25,766,938

**Debt Service Requirements to Maturity**

The annual requirements to amortize outstanding long-term debt of the primary government at December 31, 2000, including interest payments of \$8,322,121 are as follows:

Maturity	Public Improvement Bonds	Special Assessment Bonds	Certificate of Indebtedness	Promissory Notes
2001	\$ 3,276,281	\$ 75,147	\$ 116,750	\$ 7,500
2002	3,276,703	70,902	115,900	7,500
2003	3,298,078	67,770	114,750	-
2004	3,314,698	65,070	113,300	-
2005	3,198,370	62,343	-	-
2006-2018	16,168,662	116,397	-	-
Totals	<u>\$ 32,532,792</u>	<u>\$ 457,629</u>	<u>\$ 460,700</u>	<u>\$ 15,000</u>



**NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)**

**Debt Service Requirements to Maturity (Continued)**

Normally, debt issues are not retired prior to their maturity. For accounting purposes, interest coupons issued in connection with the sale of various bond issues become obligations/expenditures of the Parish only with the passage of time, and they represent fixed and determinable obligations which must be retired from future revenues. The following table indicates unmatured interest outstanding at December 31, 2000, and the amounts which can be presumed to be required in future years for retirement of both outstanding debts and related interest of the general long-term debt group which will become due and payable over the remaining lives of the various debt issues:

	Provided for General Long- Term Debt	Unmatured Interest Coupons	Total
Public improvement bond	\$ 20,017,879	\$ 8,192,792	\$ 28,210,671
General obligation debt	378,560	129,329	507,889
Promissory notes	15,000	-	15,000
Accrued vacation leave	622,938	-	622,938
Totals	<u>\$ 21,034,377</u>	<u>\$ 8,322,121</u>	<u>\$ 29,356,498</u>

**Bond Restrictions**

**Parish Sales Tax Bonds**

Under the terms of the indenture authorizing the issuance of Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds - Series 1995 and 1996, proceeds of the 1.5% Parish Sales and Use Tax are pledged and dedicated for the establishment and maintenance of the following bond funds:

*Public Improvement Sales Tax Bond - Series 1995 and Sales Tax Refunding Bonds - Series 1996 - Sinking Fund* to be used for the payment of principal and interest on outstanding bonds as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are to be equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

*Public Improvement Sales Tax Bond - Series 1995 and Sales Tax Refunding Bond Series 1996 - Reserve Fund* to be used solely for the purpose of paying principal and interest on bonds payable from the Bond Sinking Fund, as to which there would otherwise be default. The sum of \$961,484 has been deposited therein for this requirement.



**NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT (CONTINUED)**

**Bond Restrictions (Continued)**

**Drainage Sales Tax Bonds - Series 1995**

Under the terms of the indenture authorizing the issuance of Public Improvement (Drainage) Bonds - Series ST 1991, 1993, and 1999 proceeds of the 1/2% drainage sales and use tax are pledged and dedicated for the establishment and maintenance of the following bond funds:

*A Public Improvement (Drainage) Bond - Series ST 1991, 1993, 1999 and Public Improvement Refunding Bond - Series ST 1996 - Sinking Fund* to be used for the payment of the principal and interest on outstanding bonds as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are to be equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

*A Public Improvement (Drainage) Bond - Series ST 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1999 and Public Improvement Refunding Bond - Series ST 1996 - Reserve Fund* to be used solely for the purpose of paying principal and interest on bonds payable from the Bond Sinking Fund, as to which there would otherwise be default. The sum of \$2,187,654 has been deposited therein for this requirement.

**Certificate of Indebtedness - Series 1995**

A Sinking Fund is used for the payment of principal and interest on indebtedness as they become due and payable. Monthly payments are equal to the sum of one-sixth of interest falling due on the next interest payment date and one-twelfth of principal falling due on the next principal payment date.

**Industrial Bond Issues**

The Long-Term Debt Account Group does not include Pollution Control Revenue Bonds, Industrial Revenue Bonds, Environmental Improvement Revenue Bonds and Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds issued under the authority of the Parish of Ascension. Obligations of the industrial districts are payable solely from the income derived from the industrial districts and do not bear the full faith and credit of the Parish.

**Long-Term Debt - Component Units**

A summary of long-term debt obligations for the component units is as follows:

Compensated absences:	
Ascension Parish Sheriff	\$ 405,730
Ascension Parish Clerk of Court	39,743
Revenue bonds:	
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 2	343,221
Ascension Parish Water Works District No. 4	54,000
Certificates of Indebtedness:	
Ascension Parish Communications District	34,564
Note Payable:	
East Ascension Hospital	174,172
	<u>\$ 1,051,430</u>



## **NOTE 8 - PRIOR YEARS' DEBT DEFEASANCE**

In prior years, the Parish has defeased various bond issues by creating separate irrevocable trust funds. New debt has been issued and the proceeds have been used to purchase U.S. government securities that were placed in the trust funds. The investments and fixed earnings from the investments are sufficient to service the defeased debt until the debt is called or matures. For financial reporting purposes, the debt has been considered defeased and therefore removed as a liability from the Parish's General Long-Term Debt Account Group. As of December 31, 2000, the amount of defeased debt outstanding but removed from the General Long-Term Debt Account Group amounted to \$1,940,000.

## **NOTE 9 - DEDICATED REVENUE**

### **Parish Sales Tax - Primary Government**

The Parish has a one percent sales and use tax levied for the purpose of funding activities of the Parish. The Council participates in centralized sales tax administration for all governmental units of the Parish.

The proceeds of the tax, after paying reasonable and necessary expenses of administration, were dedicated by the Parish for 2000, as follows:

1. Debt service for long-term debt issued for renovation and expansion of the Parish jail, and road construction and maintenance,
2. 10 percent of net sales tax collections to be used for recreational operations and facilities,
3. Amounts determined through the budget process required by the General Fund and Road and Bridge Fund for basic services,
4. Excess sales tax revenues UP TO \$400,000 are dedicated to the dedicated special project fund for health unit costs, a Parish animal shelter and a drug court, and
5. Any remaining excess sales tax revenues are dedicated to the Road Construction Fund for road construction and maintenance of roads.

### **Parish Sales Tax - Primary Government**

Consistent with the voter approved dedication of the parish sales and use tax, transfers from the Sales Tax Fund are being used to retire Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds, Series 1987, and 1996. See Note 7.

### **Restricted Sales Tax**

In 1984, the voters of East Ascension Drainage District No. 1 approved a one-half of one percent sales and use tax for the Drainage District. The proceeds of the sales tax are dedicated to drainage projects, to include the retirement of the Public Improvement (Drainage) Bonds - Series ST 1989, 1990, 1991, and 1993. See Note 7.

In 1994, the voters of Ascension Parish approved a one-half of one percent sales and use tax dedicated to road maintenance and construction (2/3 of proceeds) and fire protection districts (1/3 of proceeds) to include the retirement of the Public Improvement Sales Tax Bonds, Series - 1995. See Note 7.



## NOTE 10 - PENSION PLAN

### Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana

*Plan Description* – Substantially all employees of the Parish are members of the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by a separate board of trustees. The System is composed of two distinct plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate assets and benefit provisions. All employees of the Parish are members of Plan B.

All permanent employees working at least 28 hours per week who are paid wholly or in part from parish funds are eligible to participate in the System. Under Plan B, employees who retire at or after age 62 with at least 10 years of creditable service or at or after age 55 with at least 30 years of creditable service are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 2 percent of their final-average salary in excess of \$1,200 for each year of creditable service. Furthermore, employees with at least 10 years of creditable service, but less than 30 years, may take early retirement benefits commencing at or after age 60, with basic benefits reduced 3 percent for each year retirement precedes age 62. Final-average salary is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average. Employees who terminate with at least the amount of creditable service stated above and do not withdraw their employee contributions may retire at the ages specified above and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established or amended by state statute.

The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. That report may be obtained by writing to the Parochial Employees' Retirement System, Post Office Box 14619, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-4619, or by calling (225) 928-1361.

*Funding Policy.* Under Plan B, members are required by state statute to contribute 2.0 percent of their annual covered salary in excess of \$1,200 and the Parish is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 2.5 percent of annual covered payroll. Contributions to the System also include one-fourth of one percent of the taxes shown to be collectible by the tax rolls of each parish. These tax dollars are divided between Plan A and Plan B based proportionately on the salaries of the active members of each plan. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Parish are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year.

The Parish's contributions to the system under Plan B for the year ended December 31, 2000 were \$173,698.



## NOTE 11 - DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The Parish offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The Plan is administered by Nationwide Retirement Solutions, Inc. (Nationwide). The plan, available to all Parish employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. Participation in the plan is optional. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or an unforeseeable emergency. In accordance with the amended provisions of Internal Revenue Code, all amounts deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property or rights are solely the property and rights of the participants and their beneficiaries. As required, the Parish established a custodial account with a third party administrator who will hold the assets and income of the plan. Assets totaling \$938,945 are held by Nationwide, a deferred compensation administrator, under agreement with the Parish.

The Parish has implemented GASB Statement No. 32, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Internal Revenue Code Section 457 Deferred Compensation Plans*. Under this statement governments who have no responsibility for the plan and are not formally considered the plan's trustee are not required to report the plan in its financial statements. Since the Parish plan is held in a custodial account with a third party administrator, the assets and liabilities are not presented in the Parish's financial statements.

## NOTE 12 - INTERFUND RECEIVABLE AND PAYABLE BALANCES

The interfund balances of the primary government at December 31, 2000, were as follows:

<u>Individual Fund</u>	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
<b>Primary Government</b>		
<b>General Fund:</b>		
Sewerage District No. 6 Fund	\$ 56,961	\$ -
West Ascension Drainage Fund	-	4
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	841,938
Section 8 Fund	3,444	-
<b>Special Revenue Funds:</b>		
Road and Bridge Fund:		
West Ascension Drainage Fund	-	4,890
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	28,169	-
East Ascension Drainage Fund:		
East Ascension Drainage Major Fund	-	483,283
West Ascension Drainage Fund	-	30,077
West Ascension Drainage Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	22,932
General Fund	4	-
Road and Bridge Fund	4,890	-
East Ascension Drainage Fund	30,077	-
East Ascension Drainage Major Fund	19,876	-



**NOTE 12 - INTERFUND RECEIVABLE AND PAYABLE BALANCES (CONTINUED)**

<u>Individual Fund (Continued)</u>	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
Road Lighting District No. 4 Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	5,855
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund:		
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	4,208	-
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	14,260	-
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund:		
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	-	4,208
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	128,340	-
Recreation District Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	90,358	-
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund:		
General Fund	841,938	-
Road and Bridge Fund	-	28,169
West Ascension Drainage Fund	22,932	-
Road Lighting District No. 4 Fund	5,855	-
Criminal Court Fund	19,016	-
Recreation District Fund	-	90,358
Law Officers Court Fund	2,630	-
Sewer Project Fund	41,830	-
Section 8 Fund	16,660	-
Sewer District No. 6 Fund	419	-
Judicial District Families in Need of Service Fund	-	3,542
Road Project Fund	403,843	-
Section 8 Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	16,660
General Fund	-	3,444
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund:		
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	-	128,340
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund	-	14,260
Road Project Fund	-	207,229
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Fund	-	77,971
East Ascension Drainage Major Fund:		
East Ascension Drainage Fund	483,283	-
West Ascension Drainage Fund	-	19,876
Law Officers Court Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	2,630
Judicial District Families in Need of Service Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	3,542	-
<b>Debt Service Funds:</b>		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Sinking Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	77,971	-



**NOTE 12 - INTERFUND RECEIVABLE AND PAYABLE BALANCES (CONTINUED)**

<u>Individual Fund (Continued)</u>	<u>Receivable</u>	<u>Payable</u>
<b>Capital Projects Funds:</b>		
Road Project Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 2 Fund	207,229	-
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	403,843
Sewer Project Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	41,830
 Total primary government	 <u>2,507,735</u>	 <u>2,431,339</u>
 <b>Component Units</b>		
Criminal Court Fund:		
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund	-	19,016
Sewer District No. 6:		
General Fund	-	56,961
Sales and Use Tax District No. 1 Fund		419
District Attorney	11,783	11,783
Parish Court	5,357	5,357
Clerk of Court	<u>49,636</u>	<u>49,636</u>
 Total component units	 <u>66,776</u>	 <u>143,172</u>
 Total reporting entity	 <u>\$ 2,574,511</u>	 <u>\$ 2,574,511</u>

**NOTE 13 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

**Suits and Claims**

Various suits and claims arising in the ordinary course of operations are pending against the Parish. The majority of the cases are either covered by insurance or other defenses; however, the ultimate effect of such litigation cannot be ascertained at this time. These claims consist of environmental issues, improper maintenance of roads, contractual disputes and improper right of ways. It is the opinion of Parish management that the ultimate resolution of such litigation will not have a material effect on the financial position of the Parish.

**Environmental Remediation**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued an administrative order concerning a wastewater treatment system operated by Ascension Parish. The order cites the discharge of pollutants from the system, lack of an operating permit and non-filing of required monthly discharge monitoring reports.



**NOTE 13 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (CONTINUED)**

**Environmental Remediation (continued)**

Parish management expended \$18,000 to settle the violations resulting from this matter. Furthermore, the Parish adopted a resolution, in 1999, committing \$375,000 to the construction of a wastewater treatment system to replace the non-compliant system. Finally, during 1999, the Parish abolished the Board of Directors of Sewer District No.6 and assumed operations of the current facility.

In May 2000, the State of Louisiana issued compliance orders concerning three wastewater treatment systems operated at Parish facilities. The orders cite the non-filing of discharge monitoring reports. Parish management has subsequently filed the required reports. However, no sampling was undertaken at two of the systems. The third system cited is under construction with no discharges of treated water occurring.

Officials from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality have not taken any action to the Parish's response to the compliance orders.

**Construction Contracts**

At December 31, 2000, the Parish had outstanding commitments resulting from construction contracts of approximately \$2,267,000 and engineering contracts of approximately \$886,000.

**Grants**

The Parish of Ascension receives Federal and State grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Such audits could lead to requests for reimbursement to the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under terms of the grant. It is the opinion of Parish management that the Parish's compliance with the terms of grants will result in negligible, if any, disallowed costs.

**Risk Management**

The Parish is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters for which the Parish carries commercial insurance. There were no major changes in insurance coverage from the prior year.

**NOTE 14 - SELF INSURANCE**

The Parish has a self-insured retention program (SIR) within the internal service fund for potential liabilities. Claims in excess of the self-insured retention amounts are covered through third-party limited coverage insurance policies. The Parish is self-insured with excess coverage in these areas: (a) worker's compensation liability with a two-year period retention of \$200,000 per occurrence with an aggregate limit of \$1,000,000, and (b) liability (including automobile, general liability, products and property) with a \$30,000 per occurrence limit and annual aggregate limits of \$125,000.



**NOTE 14 - SELF INSURANCE (CONTINUED)**

All funds of the Parish participate in the program and make payments to the internal service fund based on actuarial estimates of amounts needed to pay prior and current year claims. The Parish engaged an actuary to determine the required self-insurance reserve, including claims incurred but not yet reported. As of the end of that fiscal year, it was actuarially determined that the undiscounted loss reserve was \$630,094. This reserve represents reported losses of approximately \$484,000 and includes claims incurred but not yet reported approximating \$146,000.

Changes in this reserve amount in fiscal years 2000 and 1999 were as follows:

	Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year	Current-year Claims and Changes in Estimates	Claim Payments	Balance at End of Fiscal Year
1999	\$ 625,739	\$ 294,125	\$ 289,770	\$ 630,094
2000	\$ 630,094	\$ 364,798	\$ 364,798	\$ 630,094

**NOTE 15 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Deficit Fund Balance and Retained Earnings**

**Component Units:**

The West Ascension Waterworks District No. 7 has a deficit in retained earnings of \$26,370. The District is obtaining financing from the United States Department of Agriculture, which will eliminate the deficit.

The Waterworks District No. 4 has a deficit in retained earnings of \$32,546 that was primarily due to water loss experienced at various times in prior years.

**Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations**

Excess of expenditures over appropriations in individual funds or departments within the funds occurred as follows:

	Revised Budget	Actual (Budgetary Basis)	Unfavorable Variance
<b>General Fund:</b>			
Public safety	\$ 557,930	\$ 627,510	\$ (69,580)
Debt service	-	7,500	(7,500)
Culture and recreation	44,700	47,621	(2,921)

**NOTE 15 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CONTINUED)**

**Expenditures Exceeding Appropriations (Continued)**

	<u>Revised Budget</u>	<u>Actual (Budgetary Basis)</u>	<u>Unfavorable Variance</u>
<b>Special Revenue Funds:</b>			
Sales & Use Tax No. 1 Fund			
General government	\$ 98,000	\$ 105,696	\$ (7,696)
Operating Transfer Out:			
Road Construction Fund	746,620	897,513	(150,893)
Recreation Fund	987,700	1,041,753	(54,053)
Sales & Use Tax No. 2 Fund			
General government	45,000	52,867	(7,867)
Operating Transfer Out:			
Fire Protection District No. 1 Fund	1,500,940	1,512,535	(11,595)
Fire Protection District No. 2 Fund	166,800	168,060	(1,260)
Road Construction Fund	2,400,100	2,425,917	(25,817)
Road Lighting District No. 1 Fund	13,630	13,955	(325)
Road Lighting District No. 3 Fund	18,600	19,620	(1,020)
Road Lighting District No. 4 Fund	8,790	9,015	(225)
Road Lighting District No. 5 Fund	15,350	15,769	(419)
Road Lighting District No. 6 Fund	106,100	108,092	(1,992)
Law Officers' Court Fund	62,000	63,236	(1,236)
<b>Capital Projects Funds:</b>			
Court House East	201,700	212,870	(11,170)

**NOTE 16 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

**Construction Contracts**

The Parish awarded approximately \$298,500 in construction contracts and \$56,000 in engineering contracts subsequent to December 31, 2000.

**Environmental Remediation**

In 2001, EPA issued a second administrative order concerning the system at Sewer District No. 6, citing discharge of pollutants from the system and non-filing of various required reports. The Parish is vigorously pursuing the resolution of this matter. The ultimate outcome has not been determined.



**NOTE 17 - COUNCIL MEMBER COMPENSATION**

During the year ended December 31, 2000, Council members and the Parish President received the following as compensation, including per diem payments:

	<u>Amount</u>
Parish President - Harold Marchand	\$ 63,625
Thomas Martinez	19,474
Councilman, District 1 - Alvin Thomas, Jr.	15,960
Councilman, District 2 - Thomas Pearce	15,960
Councilman, District 3 - Adrian Thompson	14,693
Joseph Pierre	227
Councilman, District 4 - Dudley Brown	15,050
Councilman, District 5 - Donnell Nickens	15,148
Gilbert Burratt	227
Councilman, District 6 - Milton Vicknair	15,440
Councilman, District 7 - Allison Bourque	15,148
Todd Lambert	162
Councilman, District 8 - Shafter Kling	15,083
Jeffrey Poche	227
Councilman, District 9 - Jerry Savoy	15,310
Councilman, District 10 - Martin McConnell	15,083
Patrick Millet	162
Councilman, District 11 - Darnell Martinez	15,375
Total	<u>\$ 252,354</u>

**NOTE 18 - PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT**

During the year ended December 31, 1999, the Parish established a capital project fund to account for the construction of a sewer system for Sewer District No. 6. The activities were reported along with other Parish capital project funds, but should have been capitalized in the Sewer District No. 6 Fund, which is an enterprise activity. In 2000, the parish restated 1999 capital projects fund activities by eliminating the Sewer District No. 6 capital project fund. Correction of this error resulted in a decrease in capital projects fund balance by \$341,000.

**Component Units:**

**Sewer District No. 6**

A prior period adjustment was made to correct an error. The adjustment increased beginning contributed capital by \$375,000. Activity from the construction of the District's sewer facility was recorded as a capital projects fund of the Parish of Ascension.

**Parish Court for the Parish of Ascension**

A prior period adjustment was made to correct an error. The adjustment increased beginning fund balance by \$18,700. Details of the prior period adjustment for the Parish Court can be found in the separately issued audit report of the component unit.

